

REMARKS

Claims 10-21 were examined and rejected. Claims 1-9 and 22-24 have been previously withdrawn. Applicants amend claims 10, 13, 15-16, 19; and cancel claims 1-9, 11, 17, 20 and 22-24. Applicants assert that no matter is added herein. For example, amendment to claims 16 and 19 is supported at paragraph 30 of the application as originally filed. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of claims 10, 12-16, 18-19, and 21 in view of the following remarks.

I. Claims Objected To

Claim 11 is objected to because the term "a" should be changed to "the". Applicants cancel claim 11, and thus respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection above.

II. Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 10-12, 16-17, 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6, 380,758 to Hsu et al. ("Hsu"). It is axiomatic to anticipated every limitation of claim must be disclosed in a single reference.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection above and submit that claim 10, as amended, is patentable over the cited references for at least the references do not teach or suggest a conversion circuit to convert a first encoded condition into an approximated second encoding, on which to base an adjustment of an on die termination circuit, as required by amended claim.

Hsu describes a compensation driving circuit to send p-codes and n-codes to drivers to adjust the impedance of input/output buffers. (See column 9 lines 37-41; column 4 lines 57 through column 5 line 22.) Specifically, Hsu teaches driving circuits 760₁ through 760_K controlling the impedances of K buffers at pads using the compensation code generated (see column 9 lines 2-4). Moreover, the driving circuits use p-devices to drive buffer 230 when the p-code is enabled, and use n-devices to drive buffer 230 when n-code is enabled (see column 5 lines 57-65).

However, the Patent Office has not identified and Applicants are unable to find any teaching or suggestion in Hsu of converting a first encoded condition into an approximated second encoding, as required by amended claim 10. As known in the industry, an encoding requires something formatted (e.g., into a code) according to a standard format (see <http://education.yahoo.com/reference/dictionary/entry/encode> on September 13, 2005). Specifically, the drivers drive the buffer according to pull up and pull down characteristics of p-devices or n-devices in Hsu, but there is no teaching or suggestion that the output of the p-devices or n-devices is an approximated second encoding. Hence, for at least this reason Applicants respectfully request that the Patent Office withdraw the rejection above of amended claim 10.

Likewise, Applicants disagree with the rejection above of claim 16 (and presume claim 19 would be rejected in the same section, although Applicants were unable to find a specific rejection of independent claim 19) for at least the reason that the cited references do not teach or suggest converting the encoded signal into a truncated condition code to program the on die termination circuit, as required by those amended claims. An argument analogous to the one above with respect to amended claim 10 applies here as well. Hence, for at least this reason Applicants respectfully request the Patent Office withdraw the rejection above of amended claims 16 and 19.

Any dependent claims not mentioned above are submitted as not being anticipated or obvious, for at least the reasons given above in support of their base claims.

II. Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication 2004/0225830 A1 to DeLano (“DeLano”) in view of Hsu. To render a claim obvious, all limitations of that claim must be taught or suggested by at least one properly combined reference.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection and submit that amended independent claim 13 is patentable over the cited references for at least the reason that the cited references do not teach or suggest a conversion circuit to convert a first

encoded signal representing a condition in a memory, into an approximated second encoding, as required by amended claim 13.

An argument analogous to the one above with respect to claim 10 applies to claim 13 as well, for Hsu.

DeLano teaches a processing system including a processor on a die, a cache memory external the die and a high bandwidth interconnection between the processor and the cache memory (see summary). However, the Patent Office has not identified and Applicants are unable to find any teaching or suggestion in DeLano of a conversion circuit to convert a first encoded signal representing a condition in a memory into an approximated second encoding, as required by amended claim 13.

Hence, for at least the reason that neither Hsu, DeLano, nor the combination teach or suggest the above noted limitation of amended claim 13, applicants respectfully request the Patent Office withdraw the rejection above of claim 13.

Any dependent claims not mentioned above are submitted as not being anticipated or obvious, for at least the reasons given above in support of their base claims.

The Patent Office rejects claims 18 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hsu in view of DeLano.

Applicant respectfully disagrees as claims 18 and 21 depend from base claims 16 and 19, and hence are submitted as not being anticipated or obvious, for at least the reasons given above in support of their base claims.

CONCLUSION

In sum, a good faith attempt has been made to explain why the rejection of the claims is improper, and how the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance referring to claims 1-30, as amended here, is therefore respectfully requested to issue at the earliest possible date.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on September 15, 2005.

Erin Flynn
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